

**From:** [Edlund, Carl](#)  
**To:** [Gray, David](#)  
**Cc:** [Phillips, Pam](#); [Carroll, Craig](#); [Mason, Steve](#); [Smalley, Bryant](#)  
**Subject:** Re: For Approval: EPA Hurricane Response Press Release  
**Date:** Friday, August 25, 2017 3:35:04 PM

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Looks good to me

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 25, 2017, at 3:29 PM, Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)> wrote:

Any comments? Need ASAP.

## EPA READY TO SUPPORT FEMA, STATE EFFORTS ON HURRICANE HARVEY

WASHINGTON – EPA has an organized emergency response program for responding to man-made and natural disasters and is positioned to support FEMA, state, local and tribal partners in response to Hurricane Harvey.

“I am in regular contact with EPA Region 6 and want to commend them for their leadership and preparation,” **said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.** “EPA is closely coordinating with state and regional partners, and we have teams standing by to support FEMA. EPA is ready respond to anything that may occur due to hurricane Harvey.”

EPA Headquarters emergency operations center is monitoring the storm closely and making preparations to activate in order to support states and regions affected by the storm.

EPA’s Region 6 office in Dallas is taking action to ensure that Superfund Sites are secured in advance of the storm, to plan to assist the approximately 300 public water system rapid assessments, and to seamlessly integrate emergency response activities with Texas, Louisiana, and other federal response agencies.

### **EPA supports hurricane preparedness and response in a number of ways, including:**

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Addressing Fuel Shortages:** The Clear Air Act allows EPA Administrator Pruitt, in consultation with Energy Secretary Perry, to waive certain fuel requirements to address shortages that occur as a result of the storm. If Administrator Pruitt determines that extreme and unusual fuel supply circumstances exist in a state or region as

a result of the hurricane, a temporary waiver will help ensure an adequate supply of gasoline is available in the affected area, particularly for emergency vehicles. EPA has an experienced team standing by to expedite handling of any fuel waiver requests by the states.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Monitoring Public Water Systems:**

Water systems can be severely impacted during hurricanes due to storm surge, flooding, or loss of power. EPA Region 6 has developed a tracking system for us to identify systems in the storm's pathway. About 300 Public Water Systems are in the path (red zone) of Hurricane Harvey in Texas. Both Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Louisiana Department of Hospitals have uploaded their potentially impacted systems into Response Manager which enables planning for rapid assessments to restore water systems after the storm passes and flood waters recede. Following the storm, and if the state requests federal assistance, EPA conducts damage assessments of both drinking water and wastewater systems to identify impacts to critical assets and assist in the recovery.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Securing Superfund Sites:** EPA assesses conditions at the NPL Superfund sites in the storm's pathway and tasks each Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) remedial site manager to assess conditions and make on-site preparations for high winds and heavy rainfall. Following the storm and receding floodwaters, EPA conducts rapid assessments to identify damage at sites and initiate cleanup plans if necessary. Any on-site activities at sites located in the storm's path are ceased until the all clear is given. On-site equipment is secured. In addition, freeboard for lagoons or ponds is increased to accommodate forecasted rainfall if possible. After hurricane makes landfall and any flooding recedes, the EPA remedial managers will conduct assessments of each Superfund NPL site to ensure no damage has occurred.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**Assessing Conditions at Major Industrial Facilities:** EPA assesses conditions at the major industrial facilities in the storm's pathway to identify potential impacts and countermeasures. Following the storm and receding floodwaters, spills and releases are reported to the National Response Center. NRC notifies US Coast Guard or EPA based on preapproved jurisdiction boundaries. EPA conducts follow up inspections and damage assessments in response to reports within EPA jurisdiction.

As EPA prepares to support FEMA and its local and state partners, it continues to focus its message on the importance of public safety. For information and updates from EPA, please visit EPA's emergency response website, <https://response.epa.gov/site>.

For additional information on EPA's fuel waivers, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/fuel-waivers>.

Additional information from FEMA and [USA.gov](https://www.usa.gov) for Hurricane Harvey can be found at:  
<https://www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey>  
<https://www.usa.gov/hurricane-harvey>

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**From:** Woodyard, Josh  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 1:16 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Shiffman, Cari <[Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov](mailto:Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov)>; Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto:Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto:Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto:Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto:Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Hurricane Response

To confirm, Region 4's Emergency Operations Center is NOT activated.

*Thanks -*

*Joshua Woodyard | Associate Director  
Preparedness and Response Operations Division (PROD)  
Office of Emergency Management  
202-564-9588 (W)  
202-510-4306 (C)*

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**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 1:10 PM  
**To:** Shiffman, Cari <[Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov](mailto:Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov)>; Woodyard, Josh <[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto:Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov)>; Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto:Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David

<[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto:Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto:Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto:Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: EPA Hurricane Response

All – I am not asking for edits on this, I am asking for each relevant office to reply to all with their ADDITIONS to this statement, with information on the superfunds, etc.

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**From:** Shiffman, Cari

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 12:58 PM

**To:** Woodyard, Josh <[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto:Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov)>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto:Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto:Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto:Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto:Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: EPA Hurricane Response

Liz,

Some additional suggestions – the Region doesn't process or issue the waiver. We took David's language ("As authorized by Congress, the Clear Air Act allows the EPA Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, to waive fuel requirements during a hurricane to ensure an adequate supply of fuel is available to the impacted public. EPA has an experience team standing by to expedite any waivers deemed necessary by the states.") and made a few tweaks to conform more closely with the waiver authority language and added it to the end.

**Current EPA response statement:**

EPA has a very organized and highly developed **emergency response** program for responding to man-made and natural disasters. Administrator Scott Pruitt has activated our **emergency operations response** centers in Dallas and Atlanta. **The EPA Headquarters emergency operations center is monitoring the storm closely and making preparations to activate in order to support Regions 4 and 6. We have preparedness and readiness teams our response officials prepared to deploy if FEMA requests assistance. if request by the states through FEMA.** Our Region 6 office in Dallas is taking action to ensure that Superfund Sites are secured in

advance of the storm, to plan to assist the approximately 300 public water system rapid assessments, ~~to process emergency fuel waiver requests,~~ and to seamlessly integrate emergency response activities with Texas, Louisiana, and other federal response agencies. The Clear Air Act also allows the EPA Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Energy, to waive certain fuel requirements to address shortages that occur as a result of the storm. EPA has an experienced team standing by to expedite handling of any waiver requests by the states.

Thanks,

Cari Shiffman, Special Assistant  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance  
Office: (202) 564-2898 | Mobile: (202) 823-3277

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**From:** Woodyard, Josh  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Shiffman, Cari <[Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov](mailto: Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov)>; Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto: Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto: Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto: gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto: Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto: colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto: cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto: Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto: graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto: Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto: Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto: Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Hurricane Response

Hi Liz – Here's my take from an OEM perspective. As Tito stated, we are not activated here in DC but as you can imagine, we are monitoring closely and preparing to activate if needed. We are unaware of our peers in R4 being activated so I would remove that.

**Current EPA response statement:**

EPA has a very organized and highly developed emergency response program for responding to man-made and natural disasters. Administrator Scott Pruitt has activated our emergency operations response centers in Dallas and Atlanta. The EPA Headquarters emergency operations center is monitoring the storm closely and making preparations to activate in order to support Regions 4 and 6. We have preparedness and readiness teams our response officials prepared to deploy if FEMA requests assistance if request by the states through FEMA. Our Region 6 office in Dallas is taking action to ensure that Superfund Sites are secured in advance of the storm, to plan to assist the approximately 300 public water system

rapid assessments, to process emergency fuel waiver requests, and to seamlessly integrate emergency response activities with Texas, Louisiana, and other federal response agencies.

*Thanks -*

*Joshua Woodyard | Associate Director  
Preparedness and Response Operations Division (PROD)  
Office of Emergency Management  
202-564-9588 (W)  
202-510-4306 (C)*

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**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** Shiffman, Cari <[Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov](mailto:Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov)>; Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto:Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto:Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto:Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Woodyard, Josh <[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto:Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto:Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Hurricane Response

Great, thank you – Cari. Can you all please update that statement and send it to us, to include in our press release?

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**From:** Shiffman, Cari  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto:Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto:Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto:cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto:Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto:Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Woodyard, Josh <[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto:Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto:Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Hurricane Response

Liz,

I checked with John and it looks like the last time we had an emergency fuel waiver in 2016 we didn't issue a press release (it was issued because of a pipeline failure, not a hurricane though), but did post on the website and had a desk statement prepared.

Thanks,

Cari Shiffman, Special Assistant  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance  
Office: (202) 564-2898 | Mobile: (202) 823-3277

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**From:** Irizarry, Gilberto  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 12:07 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto: Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto: gray.david@epa.gov)>; Senn, John <[Senn.John@epa.gov](mailto: Senn.John@epa.gov)>; Colip, Matthew <[colip.matthew@epa.gov](mailto: colip.matthew@epa.gov)>; Cheatham, Reggie <[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov](mailto: cheatham.reggie@epa.gov)>; Benjamin, Kent <[Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov](mailto: Benjamin.Kent@epa.gov)>; Shiffman, Cari <[Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov](mailto: Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov)>; Miles, Erin <[Miles.Erin@epa.gov](mailto: Miles.Erin@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto: graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Valentine, Julia <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto: Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>; Orquina, Jessica <[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov](mailto: Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov)>; Woodyard, Josh <[Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto: Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov)>; Oh, Peter <[Oh.Peter@epa.gov](mailto: Oh.Peter@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: EPA Hurricane Response

One principal note from me that will be followed up ....

the HQ EOC is not currently activated. We are making preparations and will be ready to activate, but we are not activated yet. We need to monitor progress of the situation to then activate promptly when we need to in order to support the Region 6 activities.

Thanks,

Gilberto "Tito" Irizarry  
Director, Preparedness & Response Ops Division  
Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
USEPA  
O: 202-564-7982  
C: 202-821-8138

Sent from my iPhone, please excuse typos.

On Aug 25, 2017, at 11:58 AM, Irizarry, Gilberto <[Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov](mailto: Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov)> wrote:

Adding my two managers (Josh Woodyard and Peter Oh) for follow-up, accordingly, today while I am out of the office today.

Thanks,

Gilberto "Tito" Irizarry  
Director, Preparedness & Response Ops Division  
Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
USEPA  
O: 202-564-7982  
C: 202-821-8138

Sent from my iPhone, please excuse typos.

On Aug 25, 2017, at 11:45 AM, Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)> wrote:

There are two different email chains going around about EPA activities and responses on the storm, one on the fuel waiver, and one on the securing superfund sites. We want to issue one press release from HQ that talks about all our response activities, including the statement that includes preparedness, superfunds being secured and the waiver. Please respond to this email with the information relevant to your office (along with the key contacts cell phone numbers), and then Amy and I will compile the relevant information into one press release, which we will send out from HQ. Once the language is approved, you should also prepare to post your office's information on your relevant web pages. But, right now, we need one coordinated response.

When it comes to press responses, once the response is approved, it can be sent – just make sure to copy the press box. If it is about Regional activities, it should be attributed to David Gray, if it's about anything involving EPA-wide response or the Administration or Administrator Pruitt, responses should be attributed to me. Please be prepared to check email and return calls over the weekend, and post anything to the website, as needed (or respond to social media posts).

My cell is 202-309-3416 if you all have questions. Thanks  
– Liz

**Current EPA response statement:**

EPA has a very organized and highly developed program



for responding to man-made and natural disasters. Administrator Scott Pruitt has activated our response centers in Washington DC, Dallas and Atlanta. We have preparedness and readiness teams prepare to deploy if request by the states through FEMA. Our Region 6 office in Dallas is taking action to ensure that Superfund Sites are secured in advance of the storm, to plan to assist the approximately 300 public water system rapid assessments, to process emergency fuel waiver requests, and to seamlessly integrate emergency response activities with Texas, Louisiana, and other federal response agencies.

Liz Bowman  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Office: 202-564-3293